

Message Text

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40

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-12 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-02 INR-10 INT-08 L-03

LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02

SS-15 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01

PM-09 RSR-01 /197 W

----- 104755

R 181536 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0614

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS LONDON 04588

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, XA, EEC

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL SPEAKS ON EC ASSOCIATION
ARRANGEMENTS

1. THE EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT
AID, HANS- BRODER KROHN, SPOKE AT A MEETING IN LONDON
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ON APRIL 17 THAT WAS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL AFRICAN SOCIETY AND THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. KROHN COMMENTED AT LENGTH ON THE COMMISSION' S RECENT REPORT ON THE FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE YAOUNDE CONVENTION COUNTRIES AND THE COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIABLES.

2. MOST OF KROHN' S REMARKS WERE DIRECTED AT THE ANTAGONISM OF VARIOUS ANGLOPHONE COUNTRIES TOWARD THE YAOUNDE CONVENTION. " THE COMMISSION HAS NOT PROPOSED YAOUNDE III," KROHN SAID. IT HAS SUGGESTED A MODEL FOR THE FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND ITS ASSOCIATES. THE COMMISSION' S REPORT SHOULD THUS BE REGARDED AS A " POINT OF DEPARTURE," AND THE COMMUNITY WILL TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF ANY OTHER PROPOSALS THAT ARE MADE DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS. KROHN STRESSED THAT THERE IS " NO QUESTION OF LIMITING THE SCOPE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BY SETTING PRIOR CONDITIONS." HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT ANY FUTURE ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENTS WILL INVOLVE NO LIMITATIONS ON THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE ASSOCIATED STATES OR ON THEIR FREEDOM OF CHOICE WITH REGARD TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

3. KROHN EXPRESSED THE COMMISSION' S STRONG HOPE THAT ALL THE YAOUNDE CONVENTION COUNTRIES AND ALL THE COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIABLES WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. PARTICIPATION, HE SAID, SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS A COMMITMENT TO SIGN. KROHN ALSO SAID THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD WELCOME AFRICAN STATES NOT MENTIONED IN THE EC ACCESSION TREATY TO JOIN IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO ETHIOPIA, SUDAN AND LIBERIA.

4. KROHN OUTLINED THE COMMISSION' S APPROACH TO REVERSE PREFERENCES ALONG THE LINES OF THE COMMISSION' S REPORT. A GATT ARTICLE XXV WAIVER WOULD NOT BE A STABLE BASIS FOR AN ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENT, HE SAID, BECAUSE IT HAS TO BE RENEWED EVERY YEAR. THE ASSOCIATED STATES WILL HAVE FULL AUTONOMY TO EXTEND ANY PREFERENCES THAT THEY GRANT TO THE COMMUNITY TO THIRD COUNTRIES, EITHER UNILATERALLY OR THROUGH NEGOTIATION.

5. KROHN SAID THAT THE COMMISSION BELIEVES THAT ANY UNCLASSIFIED

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SPECIAL COMMODITY ARRANGEMENTS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN ITS

FUTURE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS SHOULD NOT CREATE
OBSTACLES TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND SHOULD NOT INTERFERE
WITH THE FREE PLAY OF MARKET FORCES.

6. WITH REGARD TO THE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND, KROHN
SAID THAT THE COMMISSION WILL INSIST ON TWO CRITERIA:
THE YAOUNDE CONVENTION COUNTRIES MUST MAINTAIN THEIR
PRESENT ADVANTAGES AND THE NEW ASSOCIATES MUST RECEIVE
THE SAME LEVELS OF AID AS THE YAOUNDE CONVENTION
COUNTRIES. THE OVERALL SIZE OF THE EDF WILL THEREFORE
INCREASE, BUT KROHN DECLINED TO ESTIMATE HOW MUCH.

SOHM

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